



**CITY OF ALBANY
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION**

**City Hall - Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA 94706
Thursday, October 27, 2016, 7:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by Chair del Rosario.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Reeves, McCroskey, del Rosario
Absent: Javandel, Chomsky (excused)
Staff Present: Aleida Andrino-Chavez, Transportation Planner
Jeff Bond, Community Development Director
Mark Hurley, Public Works Director

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Minutes for the Regular Meeting of September 22, 2016

Motion Reeves/McCroskey: Moved to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2016 meeting as submitted.

Ayes: Reeves, McCroskey, del Rosario
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Chomsky, Javandel

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Val Williams, Debra Brill, and Ron Rosenbaum:

- Safety of students crossing Brighton Avenue after construction of the Albany Middle School Annex.

Bond advised that staff would need to collect and evaluate data prior to presenting an item to the Commission, which could occur in early 2017.

5. PRESENTATION

A. Police Report

Director Bond presented the Police Report.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

A. Preliminary Review of North Albany Traffic Calming Mini Circles Along Brighton Avenue

Chavez reported that as part of this project, the City had installed 11 speed humps along streets perpendicular to Brighton Avenue. She introduced Ryan McClain of Fehr & Peers, the firm contracted to design the mini circles and striping for Brighton Avenue to complete the plan.

Ryan McClain related details of improvements including traffic circles, striping, red curbs, sharrows, curb ramps, and valley drains.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Yield signs versus stop signs, the amount of striping, and the pedestrian crosswalk.
- Bicyclists merging with traffic around the mini circles, and signage or sharrows indicating bicyclists using both lanes at the intersection with San Pablo.
- Grade of the traffic circle and use of valley drains.
- Signage for the transition to traffic circles.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Eugene Hellwig, Erik Giesen-Fields, Connie Gee and Preston Jordan:

- Restricting truck traffic and using stop signs rather than installing traffic circles.
- Installing an all-way stop sign at Kains; and distance of sharrows from the curb.
- Sharrows must be located at the right distance from curb so that cyclists can take the traffic lane.

The Commission requested the following clarifications:

- Locations for high visibility crosswalks and challenges of constructing crosswalks.
- Large trucks navigating traffic circles.
- Location of and wet weather concerns regarding sharrows.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Stewart Gooderman and Erik Giesen-Fields:

- The speed humps that have been installed recently have been ineffective.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Support for installation of traffic circles; placing sharrows in the correct location; ensuring the handicap parking space at Cornell is not lost; and desiring an additional leg at Masonic Avenue.
- Support for the proposed design, conducting an after study to determine effectiveness of speed humps, and installing a four-way stop at Kains; and spacing of crosswalks at each traffic circle.

The Commission directed staff to proceed with refinement and advancement of plans as generally proposed.

B. Report on Results of Traffic Study on the 500 Block of Masonic Avenue and at the 600 Block of Adams Street

Chavez shared results of the traffic study. Staff recommended that the Commission consider installation of a speed hump on the 500 block of Masonic.

The Commission requested the following clarification:

- Traffic Management Plan recommendations for the 500 and 800 blocks of Masonic.
- Speed humps as opposed to soft treatments.
- Diversion of traffic.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Request for a future agenda item regarding traffic calming measures for the 500 block of Mason Avenue.

C. Update on Grant Funding to Prepare a Planning Study of Bicycle Boulevards on Kains and Adams Street

Bond reported regarding the change in the grant program causing delay in the project. The Commission could recommend to the City Council amending the Active Transportation Plan to include this project as a formal policy, at which time staff could implement the project.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. Determination of Special Meeting Date and Cancellation of the November 24, 2016 and December 22, 2016 Meetings

Chavez advised that the November meeting was rescheduled for November 30, 2016.

B. Appointment/Reappointment Process for Traffic and Safety Commission Members

Director Bond summarized the process and said that seated Commissioners would serve until reappointed or replaced.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair del Rosario included a future item of construction of the Albany Middle School Annex.

The following PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered by Preston Jordan:

- A suggestion to review standards for sharrows and diagonal ramps.

The Commission made the following comments:

- Suggested that revisions to standards, a regular review of standards, development of a work plan for 2017, and updating the Active Transportation Plan be added as future agenda items.

A. 2017 Sidewalk and Pavement Projects

B. Washington Avenue Traffic Calming

C. Thousand Oaks Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvements at Intersections East of San Pablo Avenue

D. Location of Speed Humps on the 1000 Block of Key Route Boulevard

ADJOURNMENT – Next regular meeting: To Be Determined

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:10 P.M.

The Commission agenda is available for public inspection at the Albany Community Center/Library, Senior Center and City Hall. The agenda, when available, can be found on our web page at www.albanycva.org. Agenda related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Traffic & Safety Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Community Development Department.

Please note that if you provide your name and address when speaking before the Commission/Committee/Board it will become part of the official public record, which will be posted on the Internet.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and State Law, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administration Office 510-528-5710. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.102.104 ADA Title II)". Upon request, we will provide written agenda materials in appropriate alternate formats, of disability related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in public meetings. Please deliver a written request, including your name, mailing address, phone number and brief description of the requested materials and preferred alternative format or auxiliary aid or service at least two (2) days before the meeting. Request should be sent to: City Clerk, 1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany, CA 94706.